oner's Docket No.: 791 075 DIV



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Yukihisa TAKEUCHI, Tsutomu NANATAKI,

Toshikazu HIROTA and Koji KIMURA

Ser. No.: 09/963,696

Art Unit: 2834

Filed: September 26, 2001

Examiner: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: 2017

For: PIEZOELECTRIC/ELECTROSTRICTIVE DEVICE AND PRODUCTION

METHOD THEREOF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington DC 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

3700 HAV - 2 PRECEDENT TO Examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please add new claims 14-18 as follows:

14. (NEW) A method of fabricating a piezoelectric/electrostrictive device according to claim 5, wherein said method includes a step of laminating on a surface constituting the outermost layer of said ceramic green laminate having at least one hole, when laminating at least a plurality of ceramic green sheets having at least a hole formed thereon, a ceramic green sheet having at least one hole formed thereon which is mounted on a plastic film in such a manner that said plastic film is placed as a new outermost layer, and removing said plastic film after the holes are accurately aligned.

